GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2130
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2011
MDGS TO REDUCE CHILD MORTALITY
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has impressively brought down maternal and infant mortality rates in the country and is close to achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) set by the United Nations;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the names of the States which have achieved the target set by the United Nations and the names of those States which are closer proximity to achieve the target;

(d) whether the Total Fertility Rate (TFR) has remained static after showing a decline during the last few years;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the corrective measures taken by the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY)

(a) & (b) Under Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), India is to achieve Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) of less than 106 per 100 thousand live births and Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) of less than 30 per thousand live births by 2015. As per the latest Sample Registration System report of the Registrar General of India, MMR in the country has come down from 254 (in 2004-06) to 212 (in 2007-09) and IMR has declined to 50 (SRS 2009). The State wise details are given in annexure I & II.

(c) The MDG target for MMR has been achieved by the State of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra. Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Gujarat and Haryana are close to the MDG target.

The states which have achieved MDG target of IMR are Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Daman & Diu, Goa, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Manipur, Nagaland, Puducherry and Tamil Nadu. The States which are close proximity to the IMR target are Arunachal Pradesh, Delhi, Maharashtra, Sikkim, Tripura and West Bengal.

(d) & (e) The total fertility rate for the country as a whole has not changed between the year 2008 and 2009. However three States namely Uttar Pradesh, Delhi and Maharashtra have shown decline in TFR during the same period. The reason for static TFR is low literacy, early age of marriage & child bearing and low contraceptive use.

(f) Various measures taken by Government of India in this regard are,

1. Training of health care providers in various family planning methods.

2. Promotion of fixed day family planning services in all the health facilities.

3. Promotion of Long term IUD-380-A (10 years) as a spacing method.

4. Focus on Post Partum Family Planning services in view of the high increase in institutional deliveries.

5. Enlistment of private providers to enhance provision of sterilisation services.

6. In order to improve access to contraceptives by the eligible couples, services of ASHA would be utilized to deliver contraceptives at the doorstep of households and she would be incentivised for the effort. To begin with, the initiative has been taken on a pilot basis in 233 districts in 17 States.